



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Natural Resources Conservation Service  
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## **NRCS Provides \$500,000 to Combat Colorado's Invasive Species**

**Lakewood, CO., January 7, 2008** - The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has approved ten of the 17 proposals submitted to help control Colorado's invasive species. 2008 marks the third year the agency has provided financial assistance to this wide spread issue totaling some 2 million dollars. Landowners who meet funding requirements are encouraged to apply before February 15, 2008.

*"Invasive species is a major issue in Colorado," states Dollie Gonzales, NRCS Resource Conservationist, Lakewood, CO. "The number of species that need immediate attention is as vast as the number of geographic locations we could target. Our funding was limited, but we wanted to continue our efforts in helping mitigate this natural resource concern so it was essential that the funds available have the greatest positive impact possible which is why we targeted specific counties and specific species."*

Colorado farmers and ranchers with land within designated boundaries are eligible to apply. The targeted boundaries include areas within Dolores, Montezuma, Rio Grande, Yuma, Teller, Park, Weld, Baca, Pueblo-Otero and Conejos Counties. NRCS targeted species include Meadow Knapweed, Mediterranean Sage, Orange Hawkweed, Purple Loosestrife, Yellow Starthistle, Absinth Wormwood, Black Henbane, Chinese Clematis, Diffuse Knapweed, Hoary Cress, Oxeye Daisy, Plumeless Thistle, Salt Cedar, Spotted Knapweed, Yellow Toadflax, Russian-olive, Dalmatian Toadflax, Houndstongue, Leafy Spurge, Perennial Pepperweed and Scotch Thistle.

For additional information regarding eligibility, please contact your local NRCS field office or your local Conservation District office located in the USDA Service Center that services your county.

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